# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:	) Chapter 11
FTX TRADING LTD., et al., 1	) Case No. 22-11068 (JTD)
Debtors.	) (Jointly Administered) ) Hearing: June 13, 2024 at 1:00 pm (ET) )Obj. Deadline: April 4, 2024 at 4:00 pm (ET)

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FIFTH INTERIM FEE APPLICATION OF FTI CONSULTING, INC., FINANCIAL ADVISOR TO THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS, FOR ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 1, 2023 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2024

Name of Applicant: FTI Consulting, Inc.

Authorized to provide professional

services to: Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

Date of Retention: Order entered February 15, 2023, effective as of

December 22, 2022 [Docket No. 730]

Period for which compensation

and reimbursement are sought: November 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024

(the "Application Period")

Amount of compensation sought as

actual, reasonable, and necessary: \$6,205,426.00

Amount of expense reimbursement

sought as actual, reasonable, and necessary: \$8,057.91

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The last four digits of FTX Trading Ltd.'s and Alameda Research LLC's tax identification number are 3288 and 4063 respectively. Due to the large number of debtor entities in these Chapter 11 Cases, a complete list of the Debtors and the last four digits of their federal tax identification numbers is not provided herein. A complete list of such information may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' claims and noticing agent at https://cases.ra.kroll.com/FTX.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The objection deadline set forth herein is for all parties other than the Fee Examiner and the U.S. Trustee (each as defined in the Fee Examiner Order), whose objection deadline shall be governed by that certain *Order (I) Appointing Fee Examiner and (II) Establishing Procedures for Consideration of Requested Fee Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Docket No. 834] (the "Fee Examiner Order").

Rates are higher than those approved or disclosed at retention?	Yes <sup>3</sup>
Compensation sought in this application already paid pursuant to a monthly compensation order but not yet allowed:	\$1,820,320.00
Expenses sought in this application already paid pursuant to a monthly compensation order but not yet allowed:	\$3,540.00
Number of professionals included in this application:	34
If applicable, number of professionals in this application not included in staffing plan approved by client:	N/A
If applicable, difference between fees budgeted and compensation sought for this period:	N/A
Number of professionals billing fewer than 15 hours to the case during this period:	12
This is an: monthly _X_ interim	_ final application.

 $<sup>^{3}</sup>$  Please refer to the Supplemental Declarations of FTI Consulting filed at D.I. 1132 and D.I. 3028 for more information.

# **COMPENSATION BY TIMEKEEPER**

Professional	Position	Specialty	Billing Rate	Total Hours	Total Fees
Chesley, Rachel	Sr Managing Dir	Communications	\$ 1,130	1.8	\$ 2,034.00
Baldo, Diana	Sr Consultant	Communications	550	14.7	8,085.00
Jasser, Riley	Consultant	Communications	420	33.2	13,944.00
McNew, Steven	Sr Managing Dir	Cryptocurrency	1,200	61.2	73,440.00
Carter, Michael	Sr Managing Dir	Cryptocurrency	1,200	9.7	11,640.00
de Brignac, Jessica	Managing Dir	Cryptocurrency	910	63.3	57,603.00
Leonaitis, Isabelle	Sr Consultant	Cryptocurrency	595	6.8	4,046.00
Busen, Michael	Sr Managing Dir	Data & Analytics	1,390	5.0	6,950.00
Garofalo, Michael	Senior Director	Data & Analytics	1,005	2.4	2,412.00
Jordan, Mason	Sr Consultant	Data & Analytics	730	42.8	31,244.00
Kimche, Livia	Consultant	Data & Analytics	555	23.6	13,098.00
Risler, Franck	Sr Managing Dir	Derivatives	1,895	354.2	671,209.00
Rousskikh, Valeri	Managing Dir	Derivatives	1,430	454.9	650,507.00
Diodato, Michael	Managing Dir	Derivatives	1,330	323.3	429,989.00
Kubali, Volkan	Managing Dir	Derivatives	1,330	426.6	567,378.00
Watson, Ching	Managing Dir	Derivatives	1,330	231.8	308,294.00
Majkowski, Stephanie	Senior Director	Derivatives	1,210	412.9	499,609.00
You, Can	Senior Director	Derivatives	1,190	214.6	255,374.00
Guo, Xueying	Director	Derivatives	1,130	451.2	509,856.00
Langer, Cameron	Director	Derivatives	1,060	333.6	353,616.00
Baer, Laura	Senior Director	Forensic Accounting	1,025	6.2	6,355.00
Fiorillo, Julianna	Director	Forensic Accounting	930	19.0	17,670.00
Steven, Kira	Director	Forensic Accounting	930	212.6	197,718.00
Famiglietti, Tyler	Sr Consultant	Forensic Accounting	790	12.8	10,112.00
Marsella, Jenna	Sr Consultant	Forensic Accounting	730	4.0	2,920.00
Turano, Lauren	Sr Consultant	Forensic Accounting	730	2.0	1,460.00
Vellios, Christopher	Sr Consultant	Investigative Services	730	12.2	8,906.00
Simms, Steven	Sr Managing Dir	Restructuring	1,495	80.5	120,347.50
Diaz, Matthew	Sr Managing Dir	Restructuring	1,390	247.5	344,025.00
Joffe, Steven	Sr Managing Dir	Restructuring	1,390	9.9	13,761.00
Bromberg, Brian	Managing Dir	Restructuring	1,075	412.9	443,867.50
Gray, Michael	Sr Consultant	Restructuring	790	249.5	197,105.00
Dawson, Maxwell	Sr Consultant	Restructuring	730	255.3	186,369.00
Sveen, Andrew	Consultant	Restructuring	555	332.4	184,482.00
GRAND TOTAL				5,324.4	\$ 6,205,426.00

# **COMPENSATION BY PROJECT CATEGORY**

		Total	Total
Task Code	Task Description	Hours	Fees
1	Current Operating Results & Events	46.6	\$ 50,165.50
2	Cash & Liquidity Analysis	144.4	112,077.50
9	Analysis of Employee Comp Programs	3.0	2,826.00
10	Analysis of Tax Issues	26.4	31,454.00
11	Prepare for and Attend Court Hearings	2.9	5,495.50
12	Analysis of SOFAs & SOALs	6.5	4,329.00
13	Analysis of Other Miscellaneous Motions	32.9	40,030.50
14	Analysis of Claims/Liabilities Subject to Compromise	1,590.6	1,894,676.50
16	Analysis, Negotiate and Form of POR & DS	669.3	653,670.00
18	Potential Avoidance Actions & Litigation	346.1	322,906.50
21	General Meetings with UCC and UCC Counsel	79.0	122,839.50
24	Preparation of Fee Application	144.3	88,034.00
26	Cryptocurrency/Digital Assets Issues	2,069.0	2,702,552.50
27	Communications Planning & Execution	49.7	24,063.00
29	Exchange Restart	113.7	150,306.00
	GRAND TOTAL	5,324.4	\$ 6,205,426.00

#### **SUMMARY OF FEES**

1. The total number of hours expended by FTI professionals and paraprofessionals<sup>4</sup> in performing services for the Committee during the Application Period was 5,324.4 hours. Pursuant to the Retention Order, FTI is entitled to monthly compensation for its services provided to the Committee at its current hourly rates, plus reimbursement of necessary out of pocket expenses. The following paragraphs describe the primary services rendered by FTI during the Application Period.

### Code 14 – Analysis of Claims / Liabilities Subject to Compromise (1,590.6 hours)

- 2. During the Application Period, the Debtors' and Committee's work to value customer claims culminated in the filing of the *Motion to Estimate Claims Based on Digital Assets* (D.I. 5202) (the "Estimation Motion") on December 27<sup>th</sup>. Prior to the filing of the Estimation Motion, FTI worked closely with the Debtors and their expert witnesses to understand the assumptions, discount methodologies, and other key decisions regarding the coin prices used for claims valuation. As detailed further in the Estimation Motion and related filings, some of the valuation strategies used were highly technical in nature, and FTI's Derivatives team was responsible for reviewing and independently validating these strategies. This work helped the Committee to develop an informed opinion on the coin prices used to continue to move the estimation process forward.
- 3. FTI also spent time during the Application Period reviewing the objections and expert reports filed in support of objections against the Estimation Motion. This work was done in furtherance of and supported the Committee's opinion regarding the coin prices used in the pricing of the claims pool.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Please refer to the *Supplement to the Second Interim Fee Application of FTI Consulting, Inc.* (D.I. 1653) for further detail on the roles and responsibilities of FTI's various professional segments.

4. Beyond the pricing of these claims, FTI devoted time to interpreting the claims pool as a whole. The aggregate value of claims filed against the estate is millions of times larger than even the most optimistic estimates of distributable value, meaning the reconciliation of this claims pool is critical to developing an accurate claims picture. During the Application Period, the Debtors produced recurring reports on the size and status of the claims pool, both on the customer and non-customer fronts, and FTI's Restructuring team worked with the Debtors' advisors to understand the planned objections to claims and state of the reconciliation process. During the Application Period, the Debtors began to file objections to some of these claims, which FTI analyzed. FTI prepared detailed presentations on all of these issues for the Committee, which were key for the Committee to understand the likely trajectory of claims figures and the corresponding impact on expected recoveries.

#### Code 16 – Analysis, Negotiate and Form of POR & DS (669.3 hours)

5. During the Application Period, FTI continued to develop its comprehensive recovery model to understand the flow of value to different classes of creditors within the FTX estate under the negotiated Plan structure and the impact that various plan provisions had on creditor recoveries. The volatility of asset valuations within the crypto space, combined with the extreme claims figures mentioned in the prior paragraphs, mean that forecasted recoveries can move substantially. As such, FTI has needed to refresh its analysis regularly in order to ensure the UCC always has an accurate, up-to-date view of the range of estimated recovery outcomes, as well as to understand how proposed plan provisions impact recoveries.

### Code 21 – General Meetings with UCC and UCC Counsel (79.0 hours)

6. During the Application Period, FTI participated in meetings with the Committee and its advisors. In general, the entries in this task code correspond to weekly standing Committee and advisor calls. The agendas of these calls vary widely and are based on the latest case developments

and deliverables. The Committee calls are FTI's primary means of communicating important presentations and findings to the Committee, and the Committee advisor calls are key for the advisors to prioritize, strategize, and coordinate workstreams among professionals.

#### Code 26 – Cryptocurrency / Digital Assets Issues (2,069.0 hours)

- 7. During the Application Period, Galaxy Asset Management continued to monetize the Debtors' cryptocurrency and cryptocurrency trust assets pursuant to the Investment Services Agreement (authorized by the Court at D.I. 2504). Given the substantial rise in overall crypto prices since the date of that agreement, however, Galaxy has worked with the Debtors, UCC, and AHC to take advantage of the market conditions. This has required amendments to certain negotiated caps on the sale of coins, as well as discussions about which coins can and cannot be sold under the agreement. FTI's Derivatives team has been heavily involved in evaluating the impact of market conditions on realizable value and the circumstances under which an accelerated pace of sale is appropriate. For those coins which have been sold, FTI worked closely with the UCC and the Debtors to leverage the UCC's industry expertise into optimal creditor outcomes from the sales.
- 8. For the coins which are still held by the estate, FTI has conducted highly technical analysis regarding opportunities to stake, hedge, or otherwise manage these holdings (including sophisticated stress testing) in a risk managed and value-maximizing fashion for creditor recovery. As market conditions evolve, this too has required continuous negotiations, amendments, and changes to the originally intended plans. In light of several UCC members' deep expertise in the crypto markets, FTI worked with the UCC to make proposals to optimize value and minimize any potential slippage. This work has led to significant incremental value to the estate, which can be distributed to creditors in these Chapter 11 cases.

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9. Furthermore, FTI's Derivatives team is primarily responsible on the UCC's side for valuing and evaluating the risks and value-maximizing management and monetization strategies of these remaining crypto holdings. Given the size of these positions, FTI prepared analysis to estimate the realizable value of these holdings, taking into account factors such as market volatility, liquidity, and trading volume on a token-by-token basis.

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# **SUMMARY OF EXPENSES**

Expense Type	Amount
Electronic Subscriptions	\$ 8,000.00
Working Meals	57.91
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 8,057.91

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VERIFICATION PURSUANT TO DEL. BANKR. L.R. 2016-2(g) AND 28 U.S.C. § 1746

I, Matthew Diaz, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, to the best of my knowledge and belief,

and after reasonable inquiry, declare as follows:

1. I am a Senior Managing Director with the consulting firm FTI Consulting, Inc.,

together with its wholly owned subsidiaries ("FTI"). FTI has rendered professional services to the

Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee") in these Chapter 11 cases.

2. I have read the foregoing statement of FTI for compensation and reimbursement of

expenses (the "Fee Application"). To the best of my knowledge, information and belief formed

upon the basis of my participation in this case, as well as after reasonable inquiry, the facts set

forth in the foregoing Fee Application are true and correct and materially comply with the

applicable orders, rules, guidelines, and requirements as set forth by the Bankruptcy Code, the

Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, Del. Bankr. L.R. 2016-2, and the Executive Office for the

United States Trustee.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true

and correct, to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

Executed on: March 15, 2024

FTI CONSULTING, INC.

By: /s/ Matthew Diaz

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Financial Advisors to the Official

Committee of Unsecured Creditors of FTX

Trading Ltd., et al.